



General Assembly

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Amendment

LCO No. 6494

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Offered by:

SEN. GUGLIELMO, 35th Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. 1105

File No. 509

Cal. No. 295

**"AN ACT CONCERNING THE DISSOLUTION PROCESS OF
REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS."**

1 After the last section, add the following and renumber sections and
2 internal references accordingly:

3 "Sec. 501. Subsections (b) to (d), inclusive, of section 10-221a of the
4 general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
5 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

6 (b) For classes graduating from 2004 to [2017] 2019, inclusive, no
7 local or regional board of education shall permit any student to
8 graduate from high school or grant a diploma to any student who has
9 not satisfactorily completed a minimum of twenty credits, not fewer
10 than four of which shall be in English, not fewer than three in
11 mathematics, not fewer than three in social studies, including at least a
12 one-half credit course on civics and American government, not fewer
13 than two in science, not fewer than one in the arts or vocational
14 education and not fewer than one in physical education.

15 (c) Commencing with classes graduating in [2018] 2020, and for each
16 graduating class thereafter, no local or regional board of education
17 shall permit any student to graduate from high school or grant a
18 diploma to any student who has not satisfactorily completed (1) a
19 minimum of twenty-five credits, including not fewer than: (A) Nine
20 credits in the humanities, including not fewer than (i) four credits in
21 English, including composition; (ii) three credits in social studies,
22 including at least one credit in American history and at least one-half
23 credit in civics and American government; (iii) one credit in fine arts;
24 and (iv) one credit in a humanities elective; (B) eight credits in science,
25 technology, engineering and mathematics, including not fewer than (i)
26 four credits in mathematics, including algebra I, geometry and algebra
27 II or probability and statistics; (ii) three credits in science, including at
28 least one credit in life science and at least one credit in physical science;
29 and (iii) one credit in a science, technology, engineering and
30 mathematics elective; (C) three and one-half credits in career and life
31 skills, including not fewer than (i) one credit in physical education; (ii)
32 one-half credit in health and safety education, as described in section
33 10-16b; and (iii) two credits in career and life skills electives, such as
34 career and technical education, English as a second language,
35 community service, personal finance, public speaking and nutrition
36 and physical activity; (D) two credits in world languages, subject to the
37 provisions of subsection (g) of this section; and (E) a one credit senior
38 demonstration project or its equivalent, as approved by the State Board
39 of Education; and (2) end of the school year examinations for the
40 following courses: (A) Algebra I, (B) geometry, (C) biology, (D)
41 American history, and (E) grade ten English.

42 (d) Commencing with classes graduating in [2018] 2020, and for
43 each graduating class thereafter, local and regional boards of education
44 shall provide adequate student support and remedial services for
45 students beginning in grade seven. Such student support and remedial
46 services shall provide alternate means for a student to complete any of
47 the high school graduation requirements or end of the school year
48 examinations described in subsection (c) of this section, if such student

49 is unable to satisfactorily complete any of the required courses or
50 exams. Such student support and remedial services shall include, but
51 not be limited to, (1) allowing students to retake courses in summer
52 school or through an on-line course; (2) allowing students to enroll in a
53 class offered at a constituent unit of the state system of higher
54 education, as defined in section 10a-1, pursuant to subdivision (4) of
55 subsection (g) of this section; (3) allowing students who received a
56 failing score, as determined by the Commissioner of Education, on an
57 end of the school year exam to take an alternate form of the exam; and
58 (4) allowing those students whose individualized education plans state
59 that such students are eligible for an alternate assessment to
60 demonstrate competency on any of the five core courses through
61 success on such alternate assessment.

62 Sec. 502. Subsection (j) of section 10-221a of the general statutes is
63 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
64 *passage*):

65 (j) For the school year commencing July 1, [2012] 2014, and each
66 school year thereafter, a local or regional board of education shall
67 collect information for each student enrolled in a public school,
68 beginning in grade six, that records students' career and academic
69 choices in grades six to twelve, inclusive.

70 Sec. 503. Section 10-5d of the general statutes is repealed and the
71 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

72 (a) For the fiscal years ending June 30, [2013] 2015, to June 30, [2018]
73 2020, inclusive, the Department of Education shall, within available
74 appropriations, provide grants to local and regional school districts to
75 begin implementation of the provisions of subsections (c) and (d) of
76 section 10-221a, as amended by this act.

77 (b) On or before November 1, [2012] 2014, and biennially thereafter,
78 each local or regional board of education seeking grant assistance from
79 the department pursuant to subsection (a) of this section shall report to
80 the department on the status of the school district's implementation of

81 the provisions of subsections (c) and (d) of section 10-221a, as amended
82 by this act, and an explanation for the reasons why funds are necessary
83 for the next biennium to implement the provisions of subsections (c)
84 and (d) of said section 10-221a.

85 (c) On or before February 1, [2013] 2015, and biennially thereafter,
86 the department shall report, in accordance with the provisions of
87 section 11-4a, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly
88 having cognizance of matters relating to education on the status of
89 implementation of the provisions of subsections (c) and (d) of section
90 10-221a, as amended by this act, by local and regional boards of
91 education in the state. Such report shall include, (1) an explanation of
92 any existing state and federal funds currently available to assist in such
93 implementation, (2) recommendations regarding the appropriation of
94 additional state funds to support local and regional boards of
95 education in the implementation of subsections (c) and (d) of said
96 section 10-221a, and (3) recommendations for any statutory changes
97 that would facilitate implementation of subsections (c) and (d) of said
98 section 10-221a by local and regional boards of education.

99 Sec. 504. Section 10-5e of the general statutes is repealed and the
100 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

101 On and after July 1, [2012] 2014, the Department of Education shall
102 commence development or approval of the end of the school year
103 examinations to be administered pursuant to subdivision (2) of
104 subsection (c) of section 10-221a, as amended by this act. Such
105 examinations shall be developed or approved on or before July 1,
106 [2014] 2016.

107 Sec. 505. Subsection (g) of section 10-223e of the general statutes is
108 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
109 *passage*):

110 (g) (1) (A) On and after July 1, 2010, the local or regional board of
111 education for a school that has been identified as in need of
112 improvement pursuant to subsection (a) of this section may establish a

113 school governance council for each school so identified.

114 (B) On and after July 1, 2010, the local or regional board of
115 education for a school that has been designated as a low achieving
116 school, pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of this section, due
117 to such school failing to make adequate yearly progress in
118 mathematics and reading at the whole school level shall establish a
119 school governance council for each school so designated.

120 (2) (A) The school governance council for high schools shall consist
121 of (i) seven members who shall be parents or guardians of students
122 attending the school, (ii) two members who shall be community
123 leaders within the school district, (iii) five members who shall be
124 teachers at the school, (iv) one nonvoting member who is the principal
125 of the school, or his or her designee, and (v) two nonvoting student
126 members who shall be students at the school. The parent or guardian
127 members shall be elected by the parents or guardians of students
128 attending the school, provided, for purposes of the election, each
129 household with a student attending the school shall have one vote. The
130 community leader members shall be elected by the parent or guardian
131 members and teacher members of the school governance council. The
132 teacher members shall be elected by the teachers of the school. The
133 nonvoting student members shall be elected by the student body of the
134 school.

135 (B) The school governance council for elementary and middle
136 schools shall consist of (i) seven members who shall be parents or
137 guardians of students attending the school, (ii) two members who shall
138 be community leaders within the school district, (iii) five members
139 who shall be teachers at the school, and (iv) one nonvoting member
140 who is the principal of the school, or his or her designee. The parent or
141 guardian members shall be elected by the parents or guardians of
142 students attending the school, provided, for purposes of the election,
143 each household with a student attending the school shall have one
144 vote. The community leader members shall be elected by the parent or
145 guardian members and teacher members of the school governance

146 council. The teacher members shall be elected by the teachers of the
147 school.

148 (C) Terms of voting members elected pursuant to this subdivision
149 shall be for two years and no members shall serve more than two
150 terms on the council. The nonvoting student members shall serve one
151 year and no student member shall serve more than two terms on the
152 council.

153 (D) (i) Schools that have been designated as a low achieving school
154 pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of this section due to such
155 school failing to make adequate yearly progress in mathematics and
156 reading at the whole school level prior to July 1, 2010, and are among
157 the lowest five per cent of schools in the state based on achievement
158 shall establish a school governance council for the school not later than
159 January 15, 2011.

160 (ii) Schools that have been designated as a low achieving school,
161 pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of this section, due to such
162 school failing to make adequate yearly progress in mathematics and
163 reading at the whole school level prior to July 1, 2010, but are not
164 among the lowest five per cent of schools in the state based on
165 achievement, shall establish a school governance council for the school
166 not later than November 1, 2011.

167 (3) The school governance council shall have the following
168 responsibilities: (A) Analyzing school achievement data and school
169 needs relative to the improvement plan for the school prepared
170 pursuant to this section; (B) reviewing the fiscal objectives of the draft
171 budget for the school and providing advice to the principal of the
172 school before such school's budget is submitted to the superintendent
173 of schools for the district; (C) participating in the hiring process of the
174 school principal or other administrators of the school by conducting
175 interviews of candidates and reporting on such interviews to the
176 superintendent of schools for the school district and the local and
177 regional board of education; (D) assisting the principal of the school in

178 making programmatic and operational changes for improving the
179 school's achievement, including program changes, adjusting school
180 hours and days of operation, and enrollment goals for the school; (E)
181 working with the school administration to develop and approve a
182 school compact for parents, legal guardians and students that includes
183 an outline of the criteria and responsibilities for enrollment and school
184 membership consistent with the school's goals and academic focus,
185 and the ways that parents and school personnel can build a
186 partnership to improve student learning; (F) developing and
187 approving a written parent involvement policy that outlines the role of
188 parents and legal guardians in the school; (G) utilizing records relating
189 to information about parents and guardians of students maintained by
190 the local or regional board of education for the sole purpose of the
191 election described in subdivision (2) of this subsection. Such
192 information shall be confidential and shall only be disclosed as
193 provided in this subparagraph and shall not be further disclosed; and
194 (H) if the council determines it necessary and subject to the provisions
195 of subdivision [(9)] (8) of this subsection recommending reconstitution
196 of the school in accordance with the provisions of subdivision (6) of
197 this subsection.

198 (4) The school governance council may: (A) In those schools that
199 require an improvement plan, review the annual draft report detailing
200 the goals set forth in the state accountability plan prepared in
201 accordance with subsection (a) of this section and provide advice to the
202 principal of the school prior to submission of the report to the
203 superintendent of schools; (B) in those schools where an improvement
204 plan becomes required pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, assist
205 the principal of the school in developing such plan prior to its
206 submission to the superintendent of schools; (C) work with the
207 principal of the school to develop, conduct and report the results of an
208 annual survey of parents, guardians and teachers on issues related to
209 the school climate and conditions; and (D) provide advice on any other
210 major policy matters affecting the school to the principal of the school,
211 except on any matters relating to provisions of any collective

212 bargaining agreement between the exclusive bargaining unit for
213 teachers pursuant to section 10-153b and local or regional boards of
214 education.

215 (5) The local or regional board of education shall provide
216 appropriate training and instruction to members of the school
217 governance council to aid them in the execution of their duties.

218 (6) (A) The school governance council may, by an affirmative vote of
219 the council, recommend the reconstitution of the school into one of the
220 following models: (i) The turnaround model, as described in the
221 Federal Register of December 10, 2009; (ii) the restart model, as
222 described in the Federal Register of December 10, 2009; (iii) the
223 transformation model, as described in the Federal Register of
224 December 10, 2009; (iv) any other model that may be developed by
225 federal law; (v) a CommPACT school, pursuant to section 10-74g; or
226 (vi) an innovation school, pursuant to section 10-74h. Not later than ten
227 days after the school governance council informs the local or regional
228 board of education of its recommendation for the school, such board
229 shall hold a public hearing to discuss such vote of the school
230 governance council and shall, at the next regularly scheduled meeting
231 of such board or ten days after such public hearing, whichever is later,
232 conduct a vote to accept the model recommended by the school
233 governance council, select an alternative model described in this
234 subdivision or maintain the current school status. If the board selects
235 an alternative model, the board shall meet with such school
236 governance council to discuss an agreement on which alternative to
237 adopt not later than ten days after such vote of the board. If no such
238 agreement can be achieved, not later than forty-five days after the last
239 such meeting between the board and the school governance council,
240 the Commissioner of Education shall decide which of the alternatives
241 to implement. If the board votes to maintain the current school status,
242 not later than forty-five days after such vote of the board, the
243 Commissioner of Education shall decide whether to implement the
244 model recommended by the school governance council or to maintain
245 the current school status. If the final decision pursuant to this

246 subdivision is adoption of a model, the local or regional board of
247 education shall implement such model during the subsequent school
248 year in conformance with the general statutes and applicable
249 regulations, and the provisions specified in federal regulations and
250 guidelines for schools subject to restructuring pursuant to Section
251 1116(b)(8) of the No Child Left Behind Act, P.L. 107-110 or any other
252 applicable federal laws or regulations.

253 (B) Any school governance council for a school may recommend
254 reconstitution, pursuant to subparagraph (H) of subdivision (3) of this
255 subsection, during the third year after such school governance council
256 was established if the school for such governance council has not
257 reconstituted as a result of receiving a school improvement grant
258 pursuant to Section 1003(g) of Title I of the Elementary and Secondary
259 Education Act, 20 USC 6301 et seq., or such reconstitution was initiated
260 by a source other than the school governance council.

261 (7) A school governance council shall be considered a component of
262 parental involvement for purposes of federal funding pursuant to
263 Section 1118 of the No Child Left Behind Act, P.L. 107-110.

264 [(8) The Commissioner of Education shall evaluate the school
265 governance councils established on or before January 15, 2011, based
266 on the criteria described in subsection (a) of section 10-4s. On or before
267 October 1, 2014, the commissioner shall report, in accordance with the
268 provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing committee of the
269 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education
270 on the evaluation conducted pursuant to this subdivision. Such report
271 shall also include recommendations whether to continue to allow
272 school governance councils to recommend reconstitution pursuant to
273 this subsection.]

274 [(9)] (8) The [department] Department of Education shall allow not
275 more than twenty-five schools per school year to reconstitute pursuant
276 to this subsection. The department shall notify school districts and
277 school governance councils when this limit has been reached. For

278 purposes of this subdivision, a reconstitution shall be counted towards
279 this limit upon receipt by the department of notification of a final
280 decision regarding reconstitution by the local or regional board of
281 education.

282 Sec. 506. Section 10-4s of the general statutes is repealed and the
283 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

284 (a) [The Department of Education shall monitor, within available
285 appropriations, those schools that have reconstituted pursuant to
286 subsection (g) of section 10-223e to determine whether such schools
287 have demonstrated progress with regard to the following indicators:
288 (1) The reconstitution model adopted by the school; (2) the length of
289 the school day and school year; (3) the number and type of disciplinary
290 incidents; (4) the number of truants; (5) the dropout rate; (6) the
291 student attendance rate; (7) the average scale scores on the state-wide
292 mastery examination pursuant to section 10-14n; (8) for high schools,
293 the number and percentage of students completing advanced
294 placement coursework; (9) the teacher attendance rate; and (10) the
295 existence and size of the parent-teacher organization for the school.
296 Such monitoring shall be conducted over the two-year period
297 following such reconstitution.] On or before December 1, 2011, and
298 biennially thereafter, the Department of Education shall report, in
299 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing
300 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
301 relating to education on the number of school governance councils
302 established pursuant to subsection (g) of section 10-223e, as amended
303 by this act.

304 (b) [On or before January 1, 2012, the department shall report, in
305 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing
306 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
307 relating to education on (1) the number of school governance councils
308 established pursuant to subsection (g) of section 10-223e, and (2) the
309 number of schools that have been reconstituted and the models, as
310 described in said subsection (g), that have been adopted as part of such

311 reconstitution.] On or before December 1, 2013, and biennially
312 thereafter, the department shall include in the report described in
313 subsection (a) of this section an evaluation of the establishment and
314 effectiveness of the school governance councils established pursuant to
315 subsection (g) of section 10-223e, as amended by this act.

316 (c) [On or before January 1, 2013, the department shall report, in
317 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing
318 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
319 relating to education on (1) the monitoring conducted pursuant to
320 subsection (a) of this section, (2) recommendations relating to changes
321 in the reconstitution options available to schools, including whether
322 school governance councils may continue to recommend reconstitution
323 pursuant to subsection (g) of section 10-223e, (3) comparison of the
324 models adopted, and (4) the level of progress of schools adopting each
325 model in relation to the indicators described in subsection (a) of this
326 section.] On or before December 1, 2015, and biennially thereafter, the
327 department shall include in the report described in subsection (a) of
328 this section: (1) The number of school governance councils that have
329 recommended reconstitution pursuant to subsection (g) of section 10-
330 223e, as amended by this act; (2) the number of such school governance
331 councils that have initiated reconstitution pursuant to said subsection
332 (g) of section 10-223e, and the reconstitution models adopted; and (3)
333 recommendations whether to continue to allow school governance
334 councils to recommend reconstitution pursuant to said subsection (g)
335 of section 10-223e.

336 (d) On or before December 1, 2017, and biennially thereafter, the
337 department shall include in the report described in subsection (a) of
338 this section an evaluation of those schools that have reconstituted
339 pursuant to subsection (g) of section 10-223e, as amended by this act.
340 Such evaluation shall determine whether such schools have
341 demonstrated progress with regard to the following indicators: (1) The
342 reconstitution model adopted by the school; (2) the length of the school
343 day and school year; (3) the number and type of disciplinary incidents;
344 (4) the number of truants; (5) the dropout rate; (6) the student

345 attendance rate; (7) the average scale scores on the state-wide mastery
346 examination pursuant to section 10-14n; (8) for high schools, the
347 number and percentage of students completing advanced placement
348 coursework; (9) the teacher attendance rate; and (10) the existence and
349 size of the parent-teacher organization for the school.

350 Sec. 507. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a task force to
351 examine issues relating to the changes to the high school graduation
352 requirements pursuant to subsection (c) of section 10-221a of the
353 general statutes, as amended by this act, including, but not limited to,
354 special programming needs, requirement waivers and the appropriate
355 subject areas for courses pursuant to said subsection (c) of section 10-
356 221a.

357 (b) The task force shall consist of the following members: (1) The
358 Commissioner of Education, or the commissioner's designee, (2) one
359 representative from each of the following associations, designated by
360 the association, the Connecticut Association of Boards of Education,
361 the Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents,
362 Connecticut Federation of School Administrators, the Connecticut
363 Education Association and the American Federation of Teachers-
364 Connecticut, and (3) persons selected by the Commissioner of
365 Education, including, but not limited to, teachers and any other person
366 the commissioner deems appropriate.

367 (c) All appointments to the task force shall be made no later than
368 thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall be
369 filled by the appointing authority.

370 (d) The representative from the Connecticut Association of Public
371 School Superintendents shall serve as the chairperson of the task force.
372 Such chairperson shall schedule the first meeting of the task force,
373 which shall be held no later than sixty days after the effective date of
374 this section.

375 (e) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the
376 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education

377 shall serve as administrative staff of the task force.

378 (f) Not later than January 1, 2013, the task force shall submit a report
379 on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing committee
380 of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to
381 education, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the
382 general statutes. The task force shall terminate on the date that it
383 submits such report or January 1, 2013, whichever is later.

384 Sec. 508. Section 10-4t of the general statutes is repealed. (*Effective*
385 *from passage*)"